Application No.: 10/534,112 Examiner: Bushey, Charles S.

Art Unit: 1724

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) Device for simultaneously cooling and removing liquid from

compressed gas of at least one compressor element, comprising a pressure vessel

provided with a liquid drain at a bottom thereof, an inlet for compressed gas at a

distance above the latter and an outlet for compressed gas at a top thereof, wherein a

distribution device is provided in the pressure vessel between the inlet and the outlet

for the compressed gas, said distribution device arranged so as to spread a cool fluid

in direct contact with the compressed gas, and including a heat exchanger in the

pressure vessel arranged to heat compressed gas which has been cooled by the cool

fluid;

wherein the distribution device for cool fluid comprises a pipe opening onto a

contactor in the pressure vessel and extending over a cooler;

wherein a part of the pipe of the distribution device is part of the heat

exchanger to enable re-heating the gas.

2. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein the cool fluid is

spread in counterflow relationship with respect to the flow of compressed gas.

3. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 1, wherein [[a]] the contactor is

provided between the inlet and the distribution device.

4. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim [[3]] 1, wherein the contactor

comprises a pile of loose particles.

5. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim [[3]] 1, wherein the contactor

comprises a mass with an open structure.

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6. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim [[3]] 1, wherein the contactor

comprises dishes.

7. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim [[3]] 1, wherein the contactor

comprises a combination of different types of contactors.

8. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein the heat exchanger

arranged to heat the gas is located at a top area of pressure vessel.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim [[9]] 1, wherein the cooler is a

heat exchanger whose primary part is part of a cooling circuit and whose secondary

part is a part of the pipe.

11. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim [[9]] 1, wherein the pipe of the

distribution device connects to a return line of a water drain of the pressure vessel to

an injection system of the compressor element.

12. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 11, including a cooler located

in the return line.

13. (Canceled)

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14. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim [[3]] 1, including a demisting device in the pressure vessel above the contactor.

15. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim [[3]] 1, wherein the heat exchanger and the contactor are thermally insulated and in that the insulation is provided on the outside of the pressure vessel.